SOME BRIGHT IDEAS FOR SAVING ENERGY, PG 10

Workology

Display expert keeps it simple
pg 12

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OTTAWA • MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2008
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Celebrity Buzz

Vaughn ditching bachelor status?
pg 18

# Mission fête feels strike, bad weather

TRACEY TONG
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**Under ordinary circumstances, John Love finds it tough to get around the city.**

But the ongoing transit strike and the snowstorm yesterday made it much harder for the Ottawa resident, who is currently battling an addiction and receiving aid from Ontario Works, to make it down to the Ottawa Mission's annual community Christmas dinner.

But the effort was worth it when he finally finagled a ride from a neighbour.

"I know a lot of the staff and people here," he said. "There's a real family spirit here."

With the snowstorm and the strike, about 1,600 people — a thousand fewer than originally anticipated — attended yesterday's dinner.

Eager to make sure everyone who wanted to make it to the dinner could participate, staff co-ordinated food deliveries to low-income buildings for the first time, said executive director Diane Morrison.

The shelter expressed concerns about the impact of the strike on the dinner last week.

It's not just about the food, said Morrison.

"A lot of people come down just to have someone to eat with," she said. "For some people who are living alone in a little room, this could be their Christmas dinner.

"It's a chance to sit down and talk to someone."

As much as Ottawa resident James Whitaker enjoyed his meal, it was more about meeting up with friends he hadn't seen in a while, he said.

Among the 120 volunteers who travelled through the snowstorm from as far as Kanata and Orleans to serve up more than 2,500 pounds of oven-roasted turkey and all the trimmings, there were some familiar faces, including police Chief Vern White, Deputy Chief Gilles Larochelle, Mayor Larry O'Brien and Ottawa West Nepean MPP Jim Watson.

**"It's a chance to sit down and talk to someone."**
Diane Morrison

Sgt. Jim Elves jumped at the chance to get involved again. Volunteering not only gives officers a chance to give back to the community they work in, but to get to know some of the people who attend the shelter in a comfortable settling, he said.

The shelter tries to make the meal special with servers, flowers and linens.

"We make them feel special, as if they were in a nice restaurant," Morrison said.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Heather Dunning, left, and her mother, regular shelter volunteer Colleen Dunning, right, serve John Love at the Ottawa Mission's annual community Christmas dinner yesterday.

ShareYourViews
ottawaletters@metronews.ca

## Transit strike still on as talks set to resume

**NEGOTIATIONS** City buses will stay parked today after weekend talks between the city and OC Transpo failed to produce an agreement that would have buses rolling again in Ottawa.

Both sides have agreed to a media blackout, but city spokesman Mike Fitzpatrick said negotiations between the city and OC Transpo employees union will resume tomorrow.

Lengthy meetings with a federal mediator took place Saturday and yesterday to resolve issues around wages, scheduling, sick leave and contracting out of work that led OC Transpo's 2,300 bus drivers, mechanics and dispatchers to go on strike 12 days ago.

Members of Amalgamated Transit Union local 279 had been working out of contract since last April.

On Dec. 3, the union rejected the city's penultimate contract offer by a vote of 98 per cent and gave their bargaining team a strike mandate. Last-ditch efforts to resolve the impasse were unsuccessful and the buses have been parked since midnight Dec. 10.

For the first eight days of the strike, the two sides did not meet. The union insisted it would not return to the table until scheduling changes were removed from the proposed contract.

The stalemate was finally lifted on Thursday when Mayor Larry O'Brien and ATU international vice-president Randy Graham met and agreed that both sides would drop their pre-conditions for resuming talks.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

# Sunday's snowfall 'best timing' for plowing crews

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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**WEATHER** By the time the snow stopped falling yesterday, Ottawa had received up to 20 centimetres of snow over the weekend.

The frigid 40-km/h winds blowing snow and reducing visibility on area roads kept emergency crews busy. Paramedic team leader Paul Morneau said they were responding to "nonstop" collisions throughout the day.

"Fortunately, we haven't had anything too serious," he said. "One of the benefits of all this snow is that people tend to drive a little slower."

Around 580 city workers in 500 vehicles were out plowing the roads yesterday according to Keith Hardiman, area manager for downtown roads in the city's public works branch.

Crews focused on main streets during the heaviest snowfall, but shifted to clearing residential roads toward the afternoon.

Having significantly fewer cars on the road yesterday made for much easier and quicker plowing, said Hardiman.

"With this hitting on a Sunday, the timing might be the best that we could get," he said.

Hardiman said the city had just finished removing the snow from the previous storm on Friday, but since another significant snowfall is forecast for Wednesday night, they will likely not even start removing snow from this storm until after Christmas.

The Christmas Eve snowfall will be accompanied by temperatures around zero with ideal weather forecasted for Christmas Day, according to Environment Canada meteorologist Geoff Coulson.

Already this December, Ottawa has received around 80 cm of snow, which is well above the average of 57.2 cm, but still not on pace with last December, which was 121 cm.

Seasonal Depression

When holidays aren't so merry
First of a two-part series, pg 5

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**Perfect weather to take out the toboggan**
Two toboggan hills located within the Greenbelt officially opened over the weekend, the National Capital Commission said. The hills, located at Conroy Pit on Conroy Road and Bruce Pit on Cedarview Road, are used at the person's own risk. METRO OTTAWA

# Local

## Volunteers needed for volunteers

**Volunteer Ottawa, 211 Ottawa and United Way/Centraide Ottawa are partnering to provide transportation for volunteers and organizations during the transit strike. Without public transportation, many volunteers are unable to get to their volunteer shifts. Individuals with driver's licences and auto insurance who are able to donate time can call 211 or visit www.volunteerottawa.ca for more information.**
METRO OTTAWA

# Carleton prof gets plum academic post

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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**One of Carleton University's bright young stars is rising to a prominent post at the country's leading mathematical institute.**

Matthias Neufang, 33, an associate dean for the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, has been appointed the interim deputy director of the internationally esteemed Fields Institute for research in mathematical science.

**"My role is not only to push in one direction, but all of those that I see potential for growth and importance in a field. And I don't do this alone, of course."**
Matthias Neufang

Though he will be staying on the Carleton staff, the position requires him to be at the institute in Toronto for at least six months, and then take a sabbatical leave.

Neufang said he hopes to parlay the position into a longer position at the institute.

As a member of the directorate, Neufang will play a key role in deciding the direction of mathematic research in Canada.

Much of the research is purely theoretical, but Neufang said it lays a foundation for practical applications much later on.

In his own area of specialty, harmonic analysis and functional analysis — particularly operator algebra theory — his research could pave the way for making ultra-fast quantum computers as ubiquitous as the everyday desktop.

That does not mean Neufang will be leading the Fields Institute in that direction.

"My role is not only to push in one direction, but all of those that I see potential for growth and importance in a field. And I don't do this alone, of course," he said.

Neufang said the institute organizes thematic programs that usually range over half a year, where they focus on one area of mathematics and bring in experts and researchers in that field.

At the same time, students and post-doctoral fellows attend the institute to further their research.

A Fields Institute director is a prestigious appointment for a researcher and for the university he or she works for.

Neufang said he's hoping his appointment will help attract students to Carleton's school of mathematics.

"There is a lot of activity and we are trying to reach out to young people to get them in our programs, because the ones who went through are very enthusiastic about it."

## metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

**Video** Vancouver's Olympic mascots are proving to be recession-proof at **metronews.ca/canada**

**Read** Veterans of the Second World War share stories of wartime Christmas memories at **metronews.ca/canada**

**Comment** Guidy Mamman praises the "effortless peace" of Canadian multiculturalism at **metronews.ca/immigration**

## Lotteries

**Friday, Dec. 19**
**Lotto Super 7:** 2, 16, 17, 21, 23, 36 & 45 Bonus 22
**Saturday, Dec. 20**
**Lotto 6/49:** 4, 7, 8, 10, 47 & 48 Bonus 6
**Sunday, Dec. 21**
**Ontario Pick 3:** 6 5 5; **Ontario Pick 4** : 7 8 4 8
**Encore:** 6931875;
**Daily Keno:** 1, 12, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 25, 26, 28 29, 30, 36, 39, 41, 50, 54, 55, 66, 67
These results are not official.

Please recycle

## Longer days reason to celebrate

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

After yesterday's snowstorm — one of several to hit Ottawa in the last two weeks — it's no surprise that winter may be wearing a bit thin on some city residents.

Then it should also be no surprise that hundreds of people were eager to celebrate winter solstice, the shortest day of the year in the northern hemisphere, at the Canada Science and Technology Museum yesterday.

Although winter solstice, which began at 7:04 a.m. yesterday and saw the sun set just before 4:30 p.m., actually goes on for three days, Ottawans will notice days getting a bit longer after Tuesday, said Isabelle Kingsley, special events coordinator at the museum.

She said people of all ages have an interest in astronomy, but many don't know much about it and are eager to learn more.

Still, the numbers for the event at the museum were down due to the weather and the transit strike, she said.

## News in brief

**IDENTIFICATION** Ottawa police have identified the victim of last week's fatal pedestrian-car collision. Jean Charles Lamoureux-Serre, 60, was killed after being struck by a pickup truck in Ottawa's downtown Thursday.

**CRASH** A 62-year-old man suffered life-threatening injuries after a head-on crash on Highway 416 at the Rideau River Bridge early yesterday morning.

**FLASH FIRE** A 26-year-old man is in serious condition in hospital after a flash fire in his kitchen left him with second-degree burns on 39 per cent of his body. METRO OTTAWA

## Snow **That's one way to get around**

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

A man rides a bicycle down freshly plowed roads on Slater Street yesterday afternoon. Ottawa received up to 20 centimetres of snow over the weekend, keeping 580 city workers in 500 vehicles busy on the plows.

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SITE, Room H0104, 800 King Edward Avenue
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Tuesday, December 30, 2008
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Dr. Mark Hannington, Department of Earth Sciences
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**Fire claims lives of three children in Newfoundland**
Three young children in Newfoundland were killed in a fire that destroyed a home on Bell Island, 35 kilometres west of St. John's, early Saturday. Five other people — three adults and two children — managed to get out of the burning house and were taken to hospital with injuries that weren't life-threatening. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

# Canada

## Man in hospital after being Tasered

**A man from the central Newfoundland town of Sandringham who faces numerous charges was in critical condition yesterday after police used a Taser to subdue him during a violent confrontation. RCMP Sgt. Wayne Newell said the incident occurred Friday night when police received a call from occupants of a home who alleged a man with a knife was threatening them. While en route to the scene, the 29-year-old suspect himself called police, saying he had an axe and a shotgun, Newell alleged. CBC NEWS ONLINE**

# Holidays not joyful for everyone

## Added stress can compound difficulties for people battling depression, anxiety

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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METRO FEATURE
Seasonal **Depression**

**The high-energy Christmas carols and TV ads tell us the upcoming holidays are a time to be merry, but for anxious or depressed people the pressure to be joyous can compound — not alleviate — their feelings.**

Arto Tienaho said he suffered throughout much of his life from anxiety and depression — two different disorders that are often diagnosed together.

"(During the holidays,) there's a sort of pressure that you're supposed to have fun, and if you're not, it exacerbates the condition," he said.

He described depression and anxiety as walking around with a perpetual perception of fear.

"It's the same feeling you get when you're driving on the highway and there's a semi right behind you."

During the winter, the early nightfall and bad weather intensify the problem, said Dr. Connie Coniglio, Director of Health Literacy for B.C. Mental Health and Addiction Services (PHSA).

"Despite all the marketing that suggest the holidays are supposed to be such a wonderful time, a lot of people experience stress (regarding) finances, family relationships, loneliness, grief and loss."

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO CANADA

Arto Tienaho, who battled depression and anxiety throughout his life, outside his New Westminster, B.C., home. Tienaho said the pressure to have fun during the holidays can compound feelings of anxiety.

Tienaho, who has his disorders under control and is now a manager at AnxietyBC, said it took years of trial-and-error to find respite.

"Education is a really important tool," he said, adding that "little things" like getting exercise and keeping a list of goals for the holidays help.

"Keep it simple," he said. "Commit to doing a 15- or 30-minute walk. Socialize with people who are positive influences in your life. And realize that you're not the only one … feeling down at this time.

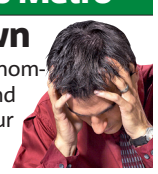
"The sooner you can recognize (the stress) and intervene, the better you'll be."

### Anxiety study

- Anxiety disorders affect around 12 per cent of Canadians. About 9 per cent of men and 16 per cent of women were found with it in a one-year study done in 2002 by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

### Tuesday's Metro

**Meltdown**



The global economic meltdown and its effects on our workplaces are resulting in added stress as 2008 comes to an end. There are ways to alleviate that anxiety, experts say, and get through the layoffs, workplace instability and fears of what 2009 will bring.

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**Hoping for Christmas jackpot**

People in Spain are anxiously awaiting the results for El Gordo ("the big one"), an annual Christmas lottery worth more than two billion euros. The winning numbers are scheduled to be announced today. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# World/Business

## PM hopefuls target Hamas

**The two leading candidates to become Israel's next prime minister vowed yesterday to topple Hamas's government in the Gaza Strip, raising tensions after a ceasefire ended in violence.**

The threats by Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and right-wing Likud party chief Benjamin Netanyahu followed a cabinet meeting in which outgoing Prime Minister Ehud Olmert cautioned against rushing into a large-scale operation in the Hamas-ruled enclave.

Such an operation could result in heavy casualties, fuel a major humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip and spark international outcry against Israel.

If elected premier in a Feb. 10 election, Livni, who heads the centrist Kadima party, said her government's objective would be to "topple the Hamas regime" using military, economic and diplomatic means.

Netanyahu, Livni's main rival for the premiership, called for a more "active policy of attack." REUTERS

### Weekend violence

• Over the weekend, an Israeli air strike killed one militant and at least one person in Israel was injured by a shell shrapnel.

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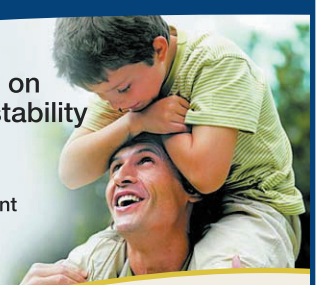

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## Scotland **A town remembers**

REUTERS/DAVID MOIR

Mourners embrace during a service yesterday at the Lockerbie air disaster memorial in Lockerbie, Scotland. Yesterday marked the twentieth anniversary of the bombing of a Pan Am jumbo jet flying from London to New York that killed 270 people.

### **News** in brief

**GREECE** The opposition Socialist party has stretched its poll lead to as much as six percentage points over the ruling Conservatives amid discontent over the handling of recent riots, surveys showed yesterday. Citizens were split on whether the government should call snap elections.

**CHINA** Snow and freezing weather have swept northern China, causing chaos for thousands. In Beijing's neighbouring city of Tianjin, all flights were cancelled at the Binhai International Airport. REUTERS

## Car tariffs ignite protests in Russia

**VLADIVOSTOK** Riot police clubbed, kicked and detained dozens of people in Russia's Far East yesterday as hundreds across the country protested a raise in car import tariffs unveiled this month to boost domestic production.

Hundreds rallied Saturday, and hoped to rally again yesterday but hundreds of riot police blocked the square where a demonstration was planned. REUTERS

## Business

## Stock market offers some holiday steals

**Investors could do their holiday shopping on Wall Street this week as bargain-basement prices for stocks and optimism over efforts to fight the year-long recession may prompt a year-end rally.**

But not even a Santa Claus rally to end the year can rescue 2008 from going into the books as the worst for stocks since the Great Depression, thanks to the housing market slump, credit crisis and, finally, recession.

With just seven trading days left, the S&P 500 index is down 39.5 per cent for the year, on pace perhaps to match Wall Street's second-worst year ever, 1937, when the S&P fell nearly 39 per cent.

That said, the slump in stocks has left them relatively cheap. And analysts are now more optimistic that unconventional recession-fighting efforts such as the Federal Reserve's big interest-rate cuts may soon gain traction.

"You're getting a lot of people picking through the wreckage of this year and doing some selective buying," said Paul Nolte, director of investments at Hinsdale Associates.

"There are some good bargains out there and there is a fair amount of buying in the marketplace." REUTERS

## Ottawa, Ontario offer $4B to autos

**BAILOUT** A $4 billion lifeline to rescue General Motors and Chrysler in Canada is likely just the first instalment of public loans to the automakers, says Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

The $4 billion represents about 20 per cent of the $17.4 billion US package announced for the two auto giants on Friday.

GM and Chrysler in both countries will get some of the aid within days since they are close to running out of money. Ford didn't receive loans because they didn't ask, a government spokesman said — but the offer is open to them.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/REUTERS

## Credit union offers auto financing

**CREDIT** The Windsor Family Credit Union in Windsor, Ont., is trying to loosen cash for consumers in an effort to spark vehicle sales. It has created a cash pool of $5 million to finance new 2008 and 2009 models to eligible borrowers at four local dealers. Several automakers have attributed tight credit to their decline in sales. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### In **brief**

**GAMBLING** Las Vegas casino operator Wynn Resorts Ltd. has seen its shares fall 66 per cent since February as the casino industry grapples with a downturn in gambling demand. REUTERS

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# Comment & Views

## Comment

# Pat on back for Christmas

HineSight

**Anne Hines**

**I want everyone to stop for just a moment, think of something you did well today, or even just that you did. Getting out of bed counts. Getting out of bed prepared to try to make it through another day counts even more.**

As a gift this Christmas, I'd like to offer readers two tips. One, as you elbow your way through stores searching for those final gifts, repeat this calming mantra "I can always give everyone a cheque. I can always give everyone a cheque." And, as you contemplate all those little joys yet to be ticked off your list, the cooking, baking, getting your Prozac prescription refilled, my second piece of advice is this: At all costs, avoid behaving like me.

Yesterday, I finished writing a book. I don't mention this as a means of shameless self-promotion. Shameless self-promotion would be to say that the title is Parting Gifts: Notes on Loss, Love and Life; it's published by McArthur & Co., and that it will be available in fall '09. I would never stoop to that.

The point is, whenever I finish writing a book, I'm exhausted and muddled. I no longer know what the book is about. I'm not sure I care what the book is about. And, I'm feeling entirely unappreciated by my evil, evil publisher who won't let me have the one thing I need to make the book really good: Four more lifetimes to work on it.

I always announce to my partner, Liz, that I am never writing another book. Not if my life depends on it. Or, the life of the entire free world. Or even, say, if space aliens came to earth and threatened to blow the place up, "Unless the Hines human dashes off 1,000 words on Why We Revere Space Aliens."

Instead, I dream of a job at Dairy Queen. Not only does dipping ice cream into chocolate seem like a greater service to the world, I suspect the pay is better.

There is one thing I never do when I finish a book. I don't pause, tell myself I'm an amazing being for having accomplished something and that no matter how good or bad the end result may be, the measure of success is simply to have tried.

So, in these final days before the holiday, don't be like me. I want everyone to stop for just a moment, think of something you did well today, or even just that you did. Getting out of bed counts. Getting out of bed prepared to try to make it through another day counts even more. Now, give yourself a gift for Christmas: A pat on the back.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

## Views

# Drop public transport? Now that's no wonderful life

InTransit

**John Holmes**

In the festive film It's A Wonderful Life, James Stewart's suicidal character, George Bailey, gets to see what the world would be like if he wasn't in it. Needless to say, it's a disaster. His wife is lonely, his brother dead, and his entire hometown destitute at the hands of a ruthless millionaire.

Inspired by our strike, I've been conducting a similar thought experiment this week with public transit.

What if, infuriated by an ongoing industrial dispute (or, more likely, enticed by the supposed $3 million a week it would save by not operating the system), the City Of Ottawa decided to give up on the idea altogether? No more buses hurrying down the Transitway. No more O-Train gliding the five stops from Greenboro to Bayview.

Fanciful as it sounds, several transport scholars have given the idea serious consideration. In Making Public Transport Work, Canadian writer Mark Bunting dedicated an entire chapter to imagining a transit-less world. Some of his conclusions, such as increased car ownership, are fairly obvious. Others indicate how our behaviour would change in much more subtle ways. In a completely car-dependent world, he argues, public spaces would become less valued, or geared toward driving. Ottawa's parks would fall into disrepair, while the suburbs would get more golf clubs.

Long term, Ottawa's layout would change fundamentally. I envisage one scenario where it turns inside out, as traffic pollution drives wealthy, car-owning residents to the suburbs. Retail and commercial developments quickly follow, turning inner-city areas into low-income ghettos. Think Los Angeles, or other sprawling U.S. cities served poorly by public transit.

**An Ottawa without transit would be a more divided city.**

However, compared to most North American cities, Ottawa has deep-rooted attachments to its downtown. The Parliament buildings and many national institutions are located centrally, and it's hard to envisage them ever being moved. In another scenario, housing within walking distance of work becomes more desirable in a traffic-choked, transit-free city. Property prices rise, and the area around the city's main landmarks become the preserve of an agenda-setting elite. The less well-off move out to increasingly ghettoized suburbs. In this scenario, Ottawa's layout starts to resemble a city in the developing world. Think Rio de Janeiro, without the beaches.

In either case, an Ottawa without transit would be a more divided city. During this strike, I've heard some take the opportunity to question why Ottawa bothers with transit at all. They clearly haven't considered the full consequences of what they are advocating. These transit misanthropes don't need a visit from a friendly angel, like George Bailey gets in It's A Wonderful Life. They need The Ghost Of Christmas Yet To Come from Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

But, like in these fables, hopefully our own holiday transit story will have a happy ending.

John Holmes is a writer for various publications in Canada and the U.K. He's never had a driver's licence, and has relied on public transit for all of his adult life.

**It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: ottawaletters@metronews.ca**
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**Bergeron released from hospital**
Boston Bruins forward Patrice Bergeron was released from hospital yesterday after being diagnosed with another concussion. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Sports

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## Tyrell out for juniors

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

**Cody Hodgson and the Canadian world junior team are off to an outstanding start in exhibition action.**

Hodgson, the 10th overall pick of the Vancouver Canucks in last June's NHL draft, had two goals and four assists in a pair of weekend victories, including last night's 7-3 triumph over Finland at Hershey Centre in Mississauga.

His line, with Zach Boychuk and Jordan Eberle, was an instant hit, combining for 12 points in two games.

RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Dana Tyrell, right, was injured during Friday's exhibition game against Sweden.

John Tavares and Jamie Benn also chipped in offensively, scoring a pair of goals each; Stefan Della Rovere had a goal and two assists; and Ryan Ellis had three assists. Last night's game was tied 3-3 early in the third period when Canada scored four unanswered goals.

Canada, which also beat Sweden 4-2 on Friday at Air Canada Centre in Toronto, returns to action against Slovakia on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern in Hamilton.

In other Team Canada news, forward Dana Tyrell suffered a significant knee injury and was sent home. Evander Kane, an offensively gifted forward eligible for the 2009 NHL draft, will replace him. He has 48 points in 28 games for the WHL's Vancouver Giants this season.

Hines Ward of the Pittsburgh Steelers is hit hard by Cortland Finnegan of the Titans after catching a touchdown pass yesterday. Tennessee won 31-14 to clinch home field throughout the AFC playoffs.

## Titans take top spot in AFC

NFL ROUNDUP

**Titans** 31 **Steelers** 14

**Kerry Collins passed for 216 yards and hit Justin Gage for a touchdown, as the Tennessee Titans rattled off 21 unanswered points to seal home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs with a 31-14 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers.**

Collins connected on 20-of-29 throws while Gage finished with 104 yards on five catches for the Titans (13-2), who finished with 323 total yards in the win, becoming the first team this season to surpass the 300-yard mark against the vaunted Steelers defence.

### BILLS 30, BRONCOS 23

Trent Edwards threw for 193 yards and a touchdown and Rian Lindell kicked three field goals as the Buffalo Bills surprised the Denver Broncos, 30-23, at Invesco Field at Mile High. Edwards completed 17-of-25 passes and Fred Jackson had 113 all-purpose yards with a touchdown run after Marshawn Lynch left with a shoulder injury. The Broncos will play at San Diego next Sunday with the winner claiming the AFC West title. The Chargers beat Tampa Bay 41-24. METRO NEWS SERVICES

### SCOREBOARD

**NFL**

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Atlanta 24 Minnesota 17
Buffalo 30 Denver 23
Cincinnati 14 Cleveland 0
Miami 38 Kansas City 31
New England 47 Arizona 7
New Orleans 42 Detroit 7
Oakland 27 Houston 16
San Francisco 17 St. Louis 16
San Diego 41 Tampa Bay 24
Seattle 13 N.Y. Jets 3
Tennessee 31 Pittsburgh 14
Washington 10 Philadelphia 3
Carolina at N.Y. Giants

SATURDAY'S RESULT
Baltimore 33 Dallas 24

TONIGHT'S GAME
Green Bay at Chicago

**NHL**

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Carolina 3 Montreal 2 (OT)
Boston 6 St. Louis 3
Florida 3 Colorado 0
New Jersey 3 Philadelphia 2 (SO)

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**Let the sunshine in**

To cut heating energy and costs in winter, on sunny days open your south-facing drapes and let the sun in, according to SaskEnergy. The sun is a natural source of heat. If you have large windows that don't receive direct sun, keep the drapes closed. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

# Going Green

## Holiday shopping tips

**Some tips to go green this holiday season: Don't fear shopping at thrift stores. A thoughtful gift will mean more than an expensive gift; Stuck on sweaters or socks as gift ideas? Give an assortment of CFL light bulbs, or replace someone's old Christmas lights with energy saving LED lights; Reuse gift bags. Don't throw them out when they still look perfectly new.** **NEWS CANADA**

EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

# Here are a few bright ideas

## Saving on your energy bills doesn't have to leave you in the cold this winter

**MATTHEW DEFAVERI**
Metro World News

**A class at Oklahoma State University is working with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and spearheading a campaign around Earth Hour to raise awareness for energy conservation. The students shared some of their tips with Metro.**

**1** Use your ceiling fans, even in the winter. By reversing the fan blades to create an updraft (recirculating the hottest air near the ceiling through the rest of the room), you can save 10 per cent on heating in the winter. Heating costs for the winter in 2007 were $928 US on average. Saving 10 per cent on heating costs translates to $92.80, with a new cost of $835.20.

**2** Make the switch to fluorescent light bulbs. If you use a 75-watt soft white normal bulb, you would get 121 hours of light for $1. An 18-watt fluorescent light bulb will net you 505 hours of light for $1. For the average household using 600 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month, roughly 10 per cent of that electricity is lighting. With 60 kWh spent on light bulbs, 75-watt normal bulbs are costing you $4.50/month and 18-watt fluorescent bulbs only cost you $1.08/month, for a savings of $3.42/month.

**3** Save on drinking water — buy a water filter. Each person drinks roughly 115 litres of bottled water per year. One case of 24 half-litre bottles of water costs an average of $7 US. At 115 litres per person, that's almost 10 cases of water!

**4** Unplug appliances when they aren't in use. You would be surprised how many electrical appliances can be easily unplugged once you're done using them. Things like colour TVs (313 watts), desktop computers (318 watts), microwaves (209 watts), or coffee makers (116 watts) are convenient enough to unplug. Even small things such as stereo systems and laptops (81 and 90 watts, respectively) can be unplugged to save on your utility bill. Spaceheating systems, while more inconvenient to unplug than a TV, guzzle an enormous 3,524 watts.

**5** Air dry dishes instead of using drying cycles. The drying setting on a dishwasher sucks up as much as 512 watts. The average household uses its dishwasher roughly four times a week, so that's 2,048 watts, or 8,192 watts per month. At a rate of $0.11/kWh, you would save $0.90 per month air drying your dishes instead of using the drying setting on the dishwasher.

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**Making money off YouTube video**
Ever since YouTube introduced a partner program last year in which individual users and media companies split advertising revenue with the video-sharing site, hundreds of partners have been making thousands of dollars a month. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

# It's all about the presentation

OddJobs

When you're out shopping, your eyes pick out things on your list, the shapes and colours you like, and the sale tags.

Leslie Groves, a 33-year-old retail consultant — and gift-wrapping expert — from Brantford, Ont., sees a lot more. She's spent her entire professional life in stores and she knows how to transform the dingiest shop into something special, the most useless piece of junk into a display prop and the simplest gift into a showpiece when wrapped.

Last holiday season, she spent an entire day at Toronto's Holt Renfrew, wrapping gifts. She also runs a wrapping seminar at gift shows. She shows people how to choose the right colours, make 20 different kinds of bows, and cost out their materials.

She's also a whiz at inventing props for retail displays. "I can walk through the plumbing department at a hardware store and come up with some great ideas," she says. Using her home workshop, she converts discarded industrial wooden spools into lightweight display tables and wooden skids into little white picket fences.

Groves first started working in retail at age 13 — she cleaned the buckets in a flower shop. Eventually, she started arranging and got good enough to win awards for her designs.

She studied retailing at Humber College and, in 1998, she was hired by Humber to help it revamp its retail program. That project really reinforced a simple but important idea to her: "It's all based on the elements of design, it's just how you apply it," she says.

But many stores she saw at the time were too cluttered and their displays had no theme and a poor use of colour. But a lot of smaller retailers had no one to tell them this.

So in 1999, she launched Interior Elements as a home-based business, and got hired to do everything from revamp stores visually to training staff on point-of-sale systems and gift-wrapping.

Between doing demonstrations at gift shows, working in stores herself, running training programs, consulting with business owners and powering up her mitre saw, no two days are ever the same for Groves.

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

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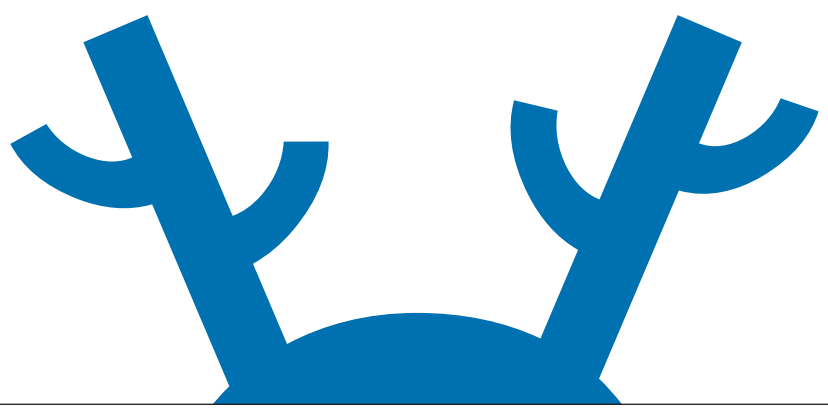

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**PETA opts for Oprah**

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has named Oprah Winfrey its Person of the Year. The group singled out the media mogul for using her "powerful voice to defend those without one." **PEOPLE.COM**

# Entertainment

## Chace's chance

**Chace Crawford is adding another role to his resumé. The Gossip Girl heartthrob will star in singer Leona Lewis' video for her next single, I Will Be.**

**IMDB.COM**

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

# Bedtime Stories a dream for Toronto-born producer

**PHIL BROWN**
for Metro Canada

**Toronto-born producer Andrew Gunn has managed to carve a nice little niche for himself in Hollywood.**

He founded Gunn Films with Walt Disney Studios in 2000 and has made a career out of producing live action family films like Sky High and Freaky Friday that appeal to a wider audience than most pre-school centric Disney fare.

His latest project brings Adam Sandler to Disney for Bedtime Stories, in which Sandler plays a man who invents fantasy stories for his niece and nephew only to see some elements of the stories come to life.

Sandler is normally involved in creating his screenplays, but this was one of the rare instances in which the studio brought the project to him.

"We did about three or four drafts of the script and hired the director," says Gunn. "Everybody thought that Adam could be great so we sent (the script) to him and were surprised to find out that he was into it. I think now that he's a dad he wanted to do something for his kids."

Adam Sandler stars in the family film Bedtime Stories.

Of course once Sandler came on board he immediately went out of his way to make the movie his own.

"Adam brought in [screenwriter] Tim Hirlihy who he's known since the old days at SNL and they did a couple passes on the script," said Gunn. "It was Adam and Tim who thought to make each story different and set one in Rome, one in the wild west, one in outerspace and that sort of thing. There are actor/producers who aren't normally that involved, but Adam is intimately involved in every aspect of the movie from the casting to the music. He knows what he does very well and at a certain point you just have to trust in him and let him work."

Bedtime Stories opens Christmas Day in theatres across Canada.

**Movie feature**

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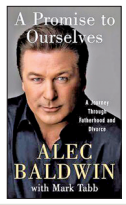
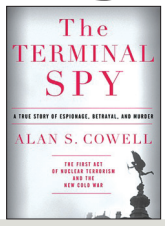
# Baldwin a forgotten father




## A Promise to **Ourselves**

**Author:** Alec Baldwin
**Publisher:** H.B. Fenn
**Price:** $27.95 (Hardcover)

Comedic actor Alec Baldwin puts on his tragedy mask to tell his side of his recent divorce and custody battle in A Promise to Ourselves, his memoir on fatherhood. Baldwin aims to transcend tabloids and offer a personal account of the psychological, emotional and legal struggles he faced during his divorce from L.A. Confidential actress Kim Basinger in 2002. Using reminiscence about his ex-wife and expression of distress over the fight for their daughter Ireland, Baldwin bares all. Though at times heavy on details and introductions, the memoir still relays Baldwin's feelings and undisguised criticism of the American legal system.

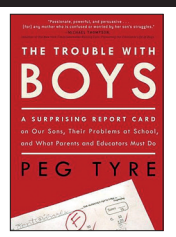



## The Terminal **Spy**

**Author:** Alan S. Cowell
**Publisher:** Doubleday Canada
**Price:** $32.00 (Hardcover)

British journalist and Pulitzer Prize nominee Alan S. Cowell walks through what he calls "the first act of nuclear terrorism" in his thorough account, The Terminal Spy: A True Story of Espionage, Betrayal and Murder. When subversive Russian writer Alexander Litvinenko was poisoned with radioactive polonium, Alan S. Cowell was there. He recalls his reporting on the case for the New York Times and international journalism to assemble Litvinenko's case and examine other plots to kill the dissident. By considering all the players, Cowell makes a case for what repercussions the largely unpunished crime may have.

## Book**Picks**




## The Trouble with **Boys**

**Author:** Peg Tyre
**Publisher:** Crown
**Price:** $27.95 (Hardcover)

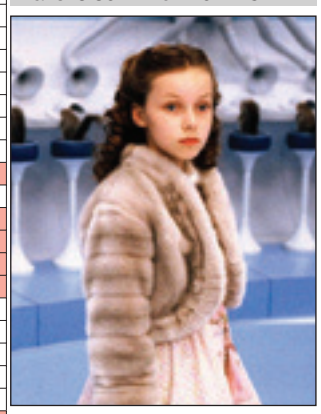
Is it safe to conclude that boys will be boys? Not so, according to Pulitzer Prize winning New York journalist Peg Tyre. In her assessment, The Trouble with Boys, Tyre gives fellows a failing grade. She travels back as early as pre-school, pinpointing numerous problem areas in schools that contribute to the detriment of the developing male. From what effect a lack of male teachers has to why fewer men are enrolling in post-secondary studies, Tyre tries to make clear where we are going wrong and what can be done to save the state of boys.

**BRIAN COULTON/FOR METRO CANADA**

## critics'corner

### Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

If you're like us and appreciate young Freddie Highmore, grab some popcorn. He stars as Charlie, a poor boy who wins a trip to see the inside of a mysterious candymaker's — played by Johnny Depp — factory. If you saw the 1971 version, you'll be happy to know no chickens were beheaded in this 2005 remake. 8:30 PM on 20 ABC



### A Miser Brothers' Christmas

Fans of the classic special "The Year Without a Santa Claus" will remember the Heat Miser and Snow Miser. In this new animated special, they get to be the good guys when the North Wind sabotages Santa's sleigh, leaving him laid up. 7 PM on 65 YTV

### The Big Bang Theory

Leonard and Penny's first date doesn't go well, and Penny shares her frustration with a reluctant Sheldon, and a secret comes out that could nip the relationship in the bud. Sara Gilbert becomes a regular cast member, playing Leonard's gal pal Leslie Winkle, in "The Bad Fish Paradigm." 8 PM on 13 CBS

## In **brief**

**BURGLARY** Celebrity heiress Paris Hilton's house was broken into Friday by a man wearing a hooded sweatshirt and gloves who forced open the front door and made off with belongings, police said. Hilton was not home during the early morning burglary, said Richard French, spokesman for the Los Angeles Police Department. Police did not release the value of the stolen items. But French said the robber "ransacked" Hilton's bedroom. **REUTERS**

See complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies


IntelleVision

GlobalStyle

## primetime / news / sports / family / cable variety

| DT | Vu | SC | C | | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12/22/08 | 265 | 353 | 2 | TVO | Time Team (N) | | The Best of The Agenda | | Midsomer Murders | | To Build a Nation | | Best-Agenda |
| | 211 | 331 | 3 | GTV | ET Canada | Entertainment | House "Not Cancer" | | Prison Break (HDTV) (N) | | Painkiller Jane | | News (N) |
| | - | - | 5 | SRC | Antarctique | La Petite vie | Le Moment de vérité (N) (SC) | | Grand Rire de Québec | | Le Téléjournal (N) (SC) | | TJ Ontario |
| | 209 | 342 | 6 | CHRO | Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye | | Gossip Girl (HDTV) | | Women of Karaoun (N) | | Stargate Atlantis (DVS) | | News (N) |
| | 196 | 311 | 7 | CTV | Hollywood | Corner Gas | Shrek the Halls | Corner Gas | *Would Be Kings* (2008, Crime Drama) (DVS) | | | | News (N) |
| | 208 | 303 | 8 | CBC | Coronation St. | Jeopardy! (N) | Pooh | Stuart McLean | The Border (HDTV) (N) | | CBC News: The National | | The Hour |
| | - | 360 | 9 | NBC | Wheel-Fortune | Jeopardy! (N) | 2008: Today Looks Back | | Momma's Boys (N) | | | | News (N) |
| | 117 | 713 | 10 | TVA | Du talent | *Walk the Line* ★★★ (2005, Biographie) Joaquin Phoenix, Ginnifer Goodwin. | | | | | TVA 22 heures | (10:45) *Trois jours* (2001) | |
| | - | - | 11 | QS | Latulippe et cie (SC) | | *Miracle de Noël* (2005, Com. dramatique), Steve Bacic (SC) | | | | Cent dix pour cent (SC) | | Msr Showbiz |
| | 137 | 763 | 12 | TFO | Tout simple | Clipperton | Un Noël gospel | | *La Ruée vers l'or* (1925) | | Chaplin | Folie-aventure | Tout simple |
| | - | 362 | 13 | CBS | Dr. Phil (HDTV) | | Big Bang Th | How I Met | Two/Half Men | Worst Week | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | Two/Half Men |
| | 216 | 395 | 14 | OMN2 | Cold Case "Sanctuary" | | News (N) | | News (N) | | Two/Half Men | Friends | Innocence |
| | 214 | 344 | 15 | CITY | Law & Order: SVU | | Holiday Moments: Home Video | | Rita Rocks | Friends | A World of Difference | | News (N) |
| | 115 | 343 | 16 | CFMT | Two/Half Men | The Simpsons | News (N) | | Bouncers | News (N) | The Simpsons | King of the Hill | Metropia |
| | 218 | 345 | 18 | E! | Tube Tales | TV Made, Do It | Momma's Boys (N) | | | | Inside Hollywood | | News (N) |
| | - | 361 | 20 | ABC | News (N) | Entertainment | Shrek the Halls | *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* ★★★ (2005, Fantasy) Johnny Depp. | | | | | News (N) |
| | 512 | 396 | 24 | CPAC | La Période de questions | | Heure polit. | L'Heure politique | | | | Revue | Période-quest. |
| | 651 | 355 | 25 | CTS | Happy Days | Laverne | Michael Coren Show | | 100 Huntley Street | | Life Today | This Is Day | John Hagee |
| | - | 365 | 36 | FOX | TMZ (N) | Seinfeld | House "Not Cancer" | | Prison Break (HDTV) (N) | | News (N) | | News |
| | - | - | 64 | PBS | Business Rpt. | Christmas | Antiques Roadshow | | Life a House Built | | Christmas at Luther | | Tavis Smiley |
| | 205 | 312 | 104 | CTV | Hollywood | Corner Gas | Shrek the Halls | Corner Gas | *Would Be Kings* (2008, Crime Drama) (DVS) | | | | News (N) |
| news | 502 | 390 | 26 | NW | CBC News | Fortune | The Hour | | CBC News: The National | | Prince William & Harry | | National |
| | 500 | 500 | 33 | CNN | Lou Dobbs Tonight | | Campbell Brown: No Bias | | Larry King Live | | Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV) | | |
| sports | 406 | 417 | 27 | net | Darts World Premier League. | | | | Best Damn Sports Show | | Sportsnet Connected | | Hockey Central |
| | 126 | 730 | 28 | RDI | RDI en direct | Chine | Grands reportages (SC) | | Le Téléjournal (SC) | | RDI en direct | Le National | Le Téléjournal |
| | 400 | 280 | 30 | TSN | That's Hockey! | Monday Night Countdown | | NFL Football Green Bay Packers at Chicago Bears. From Soldier Field in Chicago. | | | | | |
| | 410 | 403 | 52 | SCR | RaceNight | | | | (9:15) WWE Monday Night Raw | | | | Score Tonight |
| family | 411 | 457 | 56 | OLN | Bounty Hunter | Bounty Hunter | Survivorman | | Man Tracker | | Bounty Hunter | Bounty Hunter | Survivorman |
| | 417 | 406 | 59 | SC | Pinks | Pass Time | SuperCars | SuperCars | My Classic Car | My Classic Car | Barrett-Jackson | | Car Crazy |
| | 554 | 544 | 48 | TEL | Foster-Claus | 6teen (DVS) | | The Side Show Christmas | | Futurama | American Dad | Robot Chicken | Life's a Zoo |
| | 557 | 540 | 51 | FAM | Wizards-Place | That's-Raven | Zack & Cody | Natural-Sadie | Han. Montana | Life Derek | Ned's School | Cory in House | Zack & Cody |
| | 551 | 542 | 65 | YTV | A Miser Brothers' Christmas | | Year Without a Santa Claus | | *Jack Frost* ★★ (1998, Fantasy) Michael Keaton, Kelly Preston. | | | | Mystery Hnt. |
| | 570 | 580 | 29 | MM | Scott Baio, 45 | Revival | Revival | Revival | Story Of Ozzy Osborne. | | Don't Forget the Lyrics! | | Don't Forget |
| | 615 | 520 | 31 | A&E | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | Intervention "Derek" | | Intervention "Nicole" (N) | | Runaway | Manhunters | Manhunters |
| | 628 | 584 | 32 | SPKE | CSI: NY (HDTV) | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | UFC 92 Cntdn |
| | 521 | 560 | 34 | TLC | Little People | Little People | Little People | Little People | Jon & Kate | Jon & Kate | Jon & Kate Plus 8 | | Little People |
| | 145 | 761 | 35 | TV5 | Toute une histoire | | Vie privée, vie publique "Sacrés parcours!" | | | | Partir autre | Facteur | Journal TV5 |
| | 616 | 521 | 39 | SHO | *The Christmas Choir* (2008, Drama) Jason Gedrick. | | | | Kenny-Spenny | Rent-A-Goalie | Name Is Earl | Name Is Earl | Name Is Earl |
| | 620 | 523 | 40 | BVO | Desperate Housewives | | Christmas at the Concert Hall | | Pater Noster | 6 Possibilities | Dance Atlantic | Dance With Me | Law & Order |
| | 520 | 505 | 42 | DIS | Daily Planet (N) | | MythBusters | | Dirty Jobs "Micro Algae Man" | | Verminators | | Daily Planet |
| | 575 | 583 | 43 | CMT | *The Sons of Mistletoe* (2001, Drama) Roma Downey. | | | | Tara Oram's Christmas Carol | | Donner Down | The Gift | Jason McCoy |
| | 601 | 562 | 45 | SLC | Til Debt-Part | Rich Poor | Til Debt-Part | Til Debt-Part | Beautiful | Party Mamas | Tim Gunn's Guide to Style | | ET Canada |
| | 625 | 548 | 46 | COM | Air Farce | Just for Laughs | | Corner Gas | The Simpsons | South Park | Jeff Dunham's Very Special Christmas Special | | |
| | 294 | 529 | 47 | TBS | House-Payne | House-Payne | *Forces of Nature* ★★ (1999, Romance-Comedy), Ben Affleck | | | | Family Guy | Family Guy | Friends |
| | 600 | 564 | 49 | H&G | House Hunters | Property Virgin | My First Place | Home to Stay | Property Virgin | Marriage | Income Prop. | House Hunters | Holmes-Homes |
| | 627 | 528 | 50 | SPC | Lost "Par Avion" | | Star Trek | | The Dresden Files | | Eureka | | Stargate SG-1 |
| | 581 | 566 | 53 | MTV | The Hills | After Show | The Hills (Live) | | | | The Hills | The Hills Live After Show | |
| | 618 | 524 | 54 | TROP | TV Made, Do It | Very Bad Men | | What Happen? | Make or Break | TV Made, Do It | Planet Soap | Reality | Final 24 |
| | 522 | 506 | 55 | HIS | NCIS "Deception" | | Battle 360 | | Underworld Histories | | NCIS "Deception" | | Crime Stories |
| | 129 | 773 | 60 | CD | Julie Caron: Une vraie fille, c'est moi ça? | | | | Mayday (HDTV) | | Images-chocs | | Tueur |
| | 261 | 394 | 61 | V | Murder, She Wrote | | Eyes Down | May to Dec | *A Holiday for Love* ★★ (1996, Drama) Melissa Gilbert. | | | | Celtic Angels |
| | 602 | 567 | 62 | W | Friends | Will & Graces | Confidential | Maxed Out | *The Road to Christmas* (2006, Comedy) Jennifer Grey. | | | | Maxed Out |
| | 269 | 350 | 70 | APTN | Notre Peuple (N) | | Bal de neige | | Movie | | | | Respect |
| | 621 | 527 | 71 | TLK | The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N) | | TMZ (N) | Corner Gas | Relative Madness (N) | | The Tonight Show-Jay Leno | | TMZ |
| | 603 | 561 | 95 | FN | The Main | Chef at Home | Restaurant Makeover | | Good Eats | Ace of Cakes | Kitchen Nightmares | | Restaurant |

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**Better late than never**
Jessica Alba and her husband of seven months, Cash Warren, threw a long-overdue wedding reception on the weekend at their Beverly Hills home, according to usmagazine.com. The couple married last May and has a 6-month-old daughter. **EONLINE.COM**

# Celebrity Buzz

## Madonna ready to adopt again?

**CHILDREN** Madonna is reportedly moving ahead with plans to adopt another child from Malawi.

According to Star magazine, the singer is reportedly heading to the African nation — with new pal Alex Rodriguez in tow — to retrieve now 4-year-old girl Mercy James, even though Malawian adoption suggested that the singer's divorce from director Guy Ritchie would make the planned adoption impossible.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Lohan: Please save Sam's Facebook

**PEOPLE** Lindsay Lohan is upset that her rumoured girlfriend Samantha Ronson's Facebook profile was deleted, much like Lohan's was recently.

To remedy the situation, the Mean Girls actress took to her MySpace blog of all places to get the word out.

"Please put hers back exactly the way it was as you guys at Facebook did for mine," Lohan wrote.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Clay expecting second child

**CHILDREN** Former American Idol star Clay Aiken is expecting another child.

Aiken's friend, music producer Jaymes Parker, who acted as a surrogate for Aiken's first child Parker, is pregnant again and is due in August 2009, according to Babble.com.

Sources said the two wanted to give their son a sibling as soon as possible.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## 'Lonely' Nicole finds love with hubby

**MARRIAGE** Nicole Kidman was a "lonely" woman when she met Keith Urban, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 41-year-old actress — who gave birth to Sunday Rose, her first child with husband Keith, in July — was tired of being unlucky in love before she was introduced to country singer Keith.

Nicole, who is divorced from Tom Cruise, said: "My husband Keith is the most important person in my life, and I am for him. We were two lonely people who met at a time when we could open ourselves up to each other.

"We were a mixture of brave and frightened. Since getting married, I have passed up a lot of projects. I don't want to be away from the person I love. Home is in my husband's arms."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Strip dancing has complexity: Tomei

**ACTING** Marisa Tomei has done her fair share of nude scenes, but even she was somewhat wary of dancing around in a G-string — and nothing else — in her role as a stripper opposite Mickey Rourke, in The Wrestler, people.com reports.

"I didn't really want to be topless in every single dance number ... but there were certain things called for in the plot, and then I wanted to feel comfortable as her and I wanted it to be flattering."

So how did Tomei get into character? Research.

"I talked to a bunch of different girls and a bunch of different dancers. We just went out, had some drinks, went to a bunch of clubs, watched a lot of dances, got some dances," she says.

"It's like anything, any subculture. You get in there, and it's all individuals. And the dancing itself is not tawdry to the dancer and there's a lot more complexity there than you'd think."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Legend an Obamaniac

**POLITICS** Singer John Legend was so confident president-elect Barack Obama would be heading to the White House after last month's election, he hired the VIP suite of a hotel for friends to celebrate in, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

"We had the TV set up, had a bunch of drinks set up. We were just hoping we had something to celebrate. And we did," he says.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Vaughn to tie the knot in 2009?

**RELATIONSHIP** Looks like Vince Vaughn could welcome in 2009 with a wife-to-be, msn.com is reporting.

According to In Touch magazine, the funnyman, 38, is planning to pop the question to squeeze Kyla Weber, a Canadian real estate agent, over New Year's.

A pal of the actor's tells the mag he's already selected a 4-carat-plus engagement ring with an estimated price tag of $125,000 US. "Vince is ready to get married and has been for a while," says the buddy. "He wants to start a family."

Vaughn confirms he's off the market but, perhaps having learned a thing or two from his tabloid-bait, wedding rumour-crammed romance with Jennifer Aniston, offers few details. "I don't talk much about private matters," he informs USA Today. "But I am in a very happy, serious, committed relationship."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

## Robbie would ruin new Take That: Lily

**PEOPLE** Lily Allen thinks Take That would be "ruined" if Robbie Williams rejoined the group, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer — who has revealed she approached the British group to record a track with her — will be furious if the Angels star is reunited with the band he originally left in 1995.

Speaking about rumours Robbie will return to Take That: "That's not going to happen. Do you think they will get him back? That would ruin it. I love Take That."

The band's lead singer Gary Barlow recently revealed the group would consider allowing Robbie to return, after the reclusive star expressed a desire to work with them again.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Rihanna to perform for charity at inauguration

**POLITICS** Rihanna plans to rock the nation's capital on president-elect Barack Obama's Inauguration Night — and help feed millions, people.com reports.

The Grammy winner, 20, will perform for the Recording Industry Association of America's Presidential Inauguration Charity Ball, to benefit Feeding America, the nation's largest hunger-relief organization.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Adoption an option if I'm infertile: Hough

**PEOPLE** Country singer Julianne Hough isn't fazed by the possibility she may be infertile after her recent bout of endometriosis — insisting she'd adopt if she can't have children of her own, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The star was hospitalized during the current season of Dancing With The Stars, and doctors discovered a growth outside her womb.

Specialists insist she should still be able to have kids, but she says she's happy to find an alternative: "The doctor said I should be okay. But if I was unable to conceive, I'd adopt."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## All Angel wants for Christmas ...

**RELATIONSHIP** Though he's got his own TV program and Las Vegas show, Criss Angel is still proudest about having a bunny — a Playboy bunny, people.com reports.

The illusionist and his girlfriend, Girls Next Door star Holly Madison, smooched and snuggled together Friday night as they celebrated their joint birthdays at Las Vegas's LAX Nightclub.

"I don't want anything for Christmas," Angel, 41, told People. "I just want Holly, love, health and happiness, and I have all of those things."

As for his birthday request, he said, "I'm hoping Holly will just put a bow in her head and that will be my present."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

The Weather Network
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Today: Drifting snow -8° / -20°
Tuesday: Variable -7° / -10°
Wednesday: Rain and snow 90% 2° / -10°

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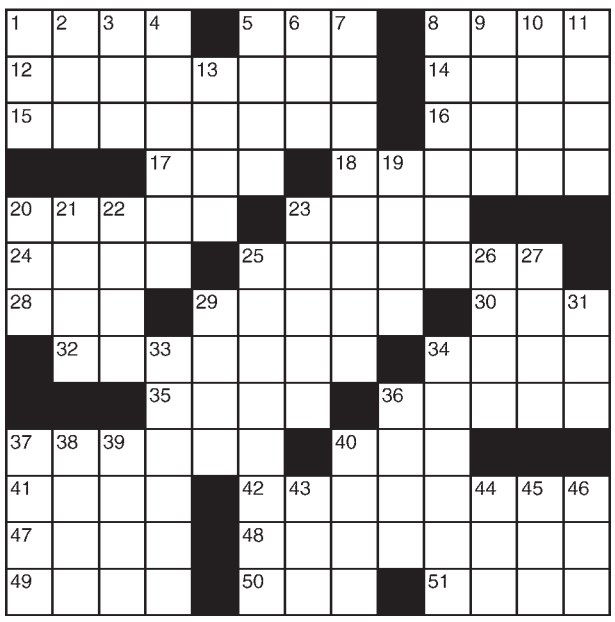
# Take Five



## Crossword across

1 Castle protection
5 Help
8 Paper quantity
12 Acquire by ingenuity
14 Sicilian volcano
15 Passenger's confiner
16 Loony
17 That man's
18 Wind musician
20 Pains' mates
23 From the start
24 Duo
25 Compulsive cleaner
28 Bygone days, once
29 Our planet
30 Bill
32 Pasty
34 Sandwich shop
35 Architect Mies van der —
36 Ready for battle
37 Not destroyed
40 "CSI" evidence
41 Bedouin
42 Long high-temp stretch
47 Reiner or Lewis
48 Cuba, Jamaica, etc.
49 Advertise greatly
50 Red or Black
51 Collections

## Crossword down

1 Wrong (Pref.)
2 Inseparable
3 Actress Gardner
4 Leash
5 Census statistics
6 Under the weather
7 Set off an explosion
8 Fame
9 Needle case
10 Picnic intruders
11 Sail support
13 Wading bird
19 "Little Women" woman
20 Gorilla
21 Tranquil
22 Stash
23 Eagle's nest
25 Petroleum-like liquids
26 Particular
27 Hardy cabbage
29 British prep school
31 Auction offer
33 Fit for use as farmland
34 Speaks slowly
36 Con
37 Apiece
38 Picture of health?
39 Rainout cover
40 Information
43 Away from WSW
44 Brewery product
45 Animal doc
46 Ar follower

## Sudoku

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | | | | | | 1 | |
| | 7 | 8 | | 5 | | 6 | 2 | |
| 6 | | | 9 | | 7 | | | 5 |
| | | 2 | 1 | | 4 | 9 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 9 | 5 | | 8 | 4 | | |
| 3 | | | 2 | | 5 | | | 6 |
| | 1 | 4 | | 6 | | 7 | 5 | |
| | 8 | | | | | | 9 | |

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | A | S | H | ■ | E | T | A | L | ■ | E | T | A |
| R | I | L | E | ■ | U | R | G | E | ■ | M | A | N |
| I | D | O | L | ■ | R | A | R | E | ■ | I | L | K |
| P | E | E | L | ■ | E | Y | E | ■ | I | T | C | H |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | O | A | K | ■ | E | P | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| F | A | J | I | T | A | ■ | D | A | M | P | E | R |
| A | G | A | T | E | ■ | ■ | P | A | I | N | T |
| D | O | R | S | A | L | ■ | R | E | C | E | D | E |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | M | M | E | ■ | E | R | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| J | O | V | E | ■ | S | O | T | ■ | M | O | M | S |
| A | B | E | ■ | E | S | P | Y | ■ | E | D | I | T |
| M | O | I | ■ | V | E | E | P | ■ | R | O | S | A |
| B | E | N | ■ | A | N | N | E | ■ | A | R | T | Y |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
| 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| 2 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| 7 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 1 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| 8 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 3 |

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

**SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:**
Under 13 min Genius
13-17 min Scholar
17-21 min Smart
21-25 min Not bad
25+ min Keep practising

## Metro Recipe of the Day

### Flank Steak with Balsamic Sauce

**INGREDIENTS:**
1/3 cup (75 mL) orange juice
1/4 cup (50 mL) balsamic vinegar
1 tsp (5 mL) Worcestershire sauce
1 tbsp (15 mL) chopped fresh thyme
2 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt, or to taste
Freshly ground black pepper to taste
1 1/2 pounds (700 g) flank steak, trimmed
2 tbsp (25 mL) finely chopped large shallot
1 tsp (5 mL) olive oil
2 tsp (10 mL) unsalted butter

**METHOD:**
1. In small bowl, whisk orange juice, vinegar, Worcestershire sauce, thyme, garlic, salt and pepper. Place steak in a shallow glass dish, pour on orange juice mixture and turn to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours, turning several times.
2. Remove steak from marinade and pour marinade into small saucepan. Add shallot and set aside. Brush ridged grill pan or heavy skillet with oil and place over medium-high heat. Add steak to pan and, depending on thickness, cook for 6 to 7 minutes per side, or until it reaches the desired doneness. Transfer to cutting board and let stand for 5 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, bring marinade to a boil over medium-high heat and cook until reduced to 1/3 cup (75 mL), 3 to 5 minutes. Remove from heat, add butter and whisk until melted.
4. Slice steak thinly across grain. Add any accumulated juices on cutting board to sauce and serve with the steak. One serving is 3 oz (85 g) steak and 1 tbsp (15 mL) sauce.

**SERVES 6**

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

## Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

**ARIES**
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Learn to enjoy spending time alone. Smiling at your troubles will be endearing. Take the high road in questions of integrity.

**TAURUS**
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A wimpy guy will slow down negotiations. Check the expiry date on fridge foods. A thoughtful person tells a little lie.

**GEMINI**
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Peculiar ideas are viewed with alarm. A toy brings back some memories. A busybody will often be ignored.

**CANCER**
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Everything you do will be rewarding. A tall man has a weighty problem. A former associate must pay money back.

**LEO**
JULY 23-AUG 23
Turn the other cheek in a conflict. Someone's retreat shows profound hurt. Say goodbye to a foolish notion

**VIRGO**
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Don't let hurt feelings block a conversation. A relative's whining will grate on your nerves. Someone is caught up in a frenzy.

**LIBRA**
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A younger person will jump at the chance to visit. A scrawny guy teaches a valuable lesson. An interesting remark will affect your future.

**SCORPIO**
OCT 24-NOV 22
Someone is having sweet dreams of you. Someone else is stuck at home. Too much silence can get aggravating.

**SAGITTARIUS**
NOV 23-DEC 21
An associate settles down after a snit. Give thanks where it's due. A do-gooder is preoccupied with giving good advice.

**CAPRICORN**
DEC 22-JAN 20
News of a significant event gives good cheer. A victorious friend wants to celebrate. A family matter will be resolved fairly.

**AQUARIUS**
JAN 21-FEB 18
A sensitive male will refuse to bow down Listen carefully when a girl speaks. Get a grip on your self-control.

**PISCES**
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A computer glitch is baffling. Be quiet and purposeful when taking action. You'll find your way through a thicket of evasion.

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